



Alberta Gerontological Nurses Association

2021-2022 Report to the Membership



2021-2022 Report to the Membership

Provincial Executive Reports

President

Submitted by Kelly Baskerville

Dear members,

The Founding Meeting of the Alberta Gerontological Nurses Association was held in December of 1981. We are now concluding our 40th year of service to gerontological nurses in Alberta.

So much has happened during this time. In just the past few years, the pandemic brought tremendous attention and debate on the state of the health care system and older people. The need for nurses, staffing levels and competencies made newspaper headlines and entered public discussion. We faced demands at work, to care for ourselves and families, and constant adaptation in how we live. This time has been filled with challenges, opportunities, and demonstrated the perseverance and passion of our professional community.

This year, we have the opportunity to come together, much as we did in 1981. Our Association's founding members tell stories about hours spent driving in a Volkswagen between Edmonton and Calgary when they formed AGNA. Specialization in aging and gerontology have not been recognized expertise for very long – so the work they undertook to collaborate and create training in how to work with older people, to understand dementia, and advocate for supports were all new. We take for granted the presence of research, training, and resources available.

Truly, we find ourselves in a new period of growth and collaboration. This year, we met with the new Alberta Association of Nurses' President to learn about our future relationship. We started collaboration with the Alberta Association on Gerontology, including sponsorship of their Futures Forum Series, and are planning a joint project in late Fall 2022. Our representatives on the Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association helped inform the creation of a social media policy, and we saw our members participate in CGNA events and had articles accepted for publication in the CGNA Journal, Perspectives.

Provincial Board



President: Kelly Baskerville

Past President: Edythe Andison

President Elect: Vacant

Secretary: Kimberly McCann

Treasurer: Cassidy Trotter

Membership: Kathleen Hunter

Education: Jennifer Boone

Communications: Judy Worrell

Advocacy: Yvonne Appah

Webmaster: Brian Ward

Calgary Chairperson: Ecaterina Nistor

Edmonton Chairperson: Brittany Walsh

Red Deer Chairperson: Catriona Blythe



It's time we rediscovered our shared sense of purpose, connection, and excitement. There are more nurses working in gerontological practice than any other specialty area and we have a lot to offer one another. We hope you will continue to attend member events, get involved on our Board and committees, and encourage others to join! There is a lot of work to be done in the coming year that needs our community's expertise.

We look forward to meeting you all again soon and building our own "new normal."

Please join me in expressing enormous gratitude to the board and committee members of AGNA, all of whom volunteer their hours of service to our community. I hope you enjoy the descriptions of their work, below. Thank you to Edythe Andison for the mentorship over this past year! I also extend gratitude to the nurses who served our Association over the past four decades and put in place a strong foundation on which we continue to build.

Past President

Submitted by Edythe Andison

As I look back on the previous year, I truly wonder where the time has gone. This will be my third annual report to the members in my tenure on the AGNA provincial board: twice as president and this one as past president and the COVID-19 global pandemic is still with us. AGNA has continued to adapt and change in relation to how we engage with our membership. Under the leadership of the talented AGNA board, education sessions continue to be presented virtually to really good response and attendance. I think we have all gotten so used to virtual mediums now, they have been normalized. With the many activities the board committees have engaged and promoted, despite the pandemic we have endured and continue to foster new interest. This is great!

This year marks the 40th anniversary of AGNA! That is really a landmark to be proud of as our membership continues to maintain strong numbers. Looking at all the previous leaders this association's history, it is truly humbling knowing the impact that each of them has made in serving the specialty of gerontology. Through practice, research, projects, advocacy, education, or participation, each has helped to shape AGNA into a well-recognized special interest group in Alberta and a strong voice nationally at the Canadian Gerontological Nurses Association.

As we look to the future, we have the opportunity to continue to build upon the foundation of 40 years. Your participation is essential to the growth of AGNA and now's the time to join your peers to forge the next 40 years. Get involved, share your skill and wisdom, and meet some very excellent people.

I am thankful for my time with the board and will continue to be involved in AGNA somewhere I am sure, it has been a challenging two years worldwide, but I am hopeful for the future. Thank you for your interest and your passion and perhaps, just perhaps we can all meet in person very soon.



The Executive

The AGNA Executive is mandated by our By-Laws, developed in 1986, and updated April 2021.

You can find these on our website, at agna.ca/about/bylaws-and-policies/

Our business year is from April 1 to March 31.

Positions:	
President	Kelly Baskerville
Past President	Edythe Andison
President Elect	Vacant
Secretary	Kimberly McCann
Treasurer	Cassidy Trotter
Membership Coordinator	Kathleen Hunter
Calgary Chairperson	Ecaterina Nistor
Edmonton Chairperson	Brittany Walsh
Red Deer Chairperson	Catriona Blythe

Additional Board members:	
Webmaster	Brian Ward
Advocacy	Yvonne Appah
Communications	Judy Ward Worrell
Education	Jennifer Boone
Provincial Study Group	Ecaterina Nistor

Purpose, Mission, and Objectives

The following is taken from AGNA's By-laws, Reviewed March 2021.

Purpose

The central purpose of AGNA is to bring together Nurses who are interested in gerontology and whose intent is to improve the health, wellness, and quality of life of older adults.

Mission Statement

The mission of AGNA is to provide leadership in promoting excellence in gerontological nursing in Alberta.

Objectives

1. To promote high standards of gerontological nursing in Alberta
2. To promote and provide continuing learning opportunities in gerontological nursing
3. To advocate, foster, and participate in activities which promote the health and quality of life of older adults in the Alberta community
4. To promote networking opportunities for nurses
5. To promote and disseminate gerontological nursing research



6. To present the views of AGNA to government, educational, professional, and other appropriate bodies
7. To assist in developing a supportive, healthy work-life environment for gerontological nurses in Alberta

AGNA This Year

Secretary

Submitted by Kelly Baskerville

Board meetings were held June 1st, September 15th, September 29th, October 12th, and December 14th in 2021, and February 8th, March 15th, and April 12th, 2022. Copies of the minutes are filed on our Association’s web server.

Our board membership was stable throughout the year, and we thank those who are completing their terms.

Treasurer

Submitted by Cassidy Trotter

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT & BUDGET 2022-2023 (Not reviewed)

Prepared by Cassidy Trotter, RN, AGNA Provincial
Treasurer

EXPENSES	PROPOSED EXPENSES 2021-2022	ACTUAL EXPENSES 2021-2022	PROPOSED EXPENSES 2022-2023
Liabilities	0	0	0
Chapter membership Allocations	5000	4950	5000
Website development	2500	0	2500
IT services	1200	360	1000
Executive committee & administrative costs	1000	0	1000
Pragmatic conferencing	0	0	0
Zoom membership	2500	2163	2300
AGNA AGM	500	600	500
AGNA education day 2022	0	0	7000
Promotions	0	0	1500
Pay Pal Payments	125	0	125
Bank fees	50	48	50
CGNA conference	0	315	350
AGNA education day 2021	7000	0	0
Education awards	2400	2650	2000
Other		0	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$22,275.00	\$11,086.00	\$23,325.00



REVENUE	2021-2022 PROPOSED	2021-2022 ACTUAL	2022-2023 PROPOSED
Membership	9000	8090	9000
AGNA education day 2022	0	0	0
CGNA Conference 2022	0	0	20,000
GIC interest	200	45.05	50.00
Donation	0	0	0
TOTAL REVENUE	9200	8135.05	29050
	- 13075.00	-2950.95	+ 5725.00

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Proposed AGM and Educational Day – includes facility costs.
2. Proposed Promotions – includes possible collaboration with another organization and associated financial contribution.
3. We reinvested our \$5000 GIC that matured in January 2022 into an Annual Compound. Signed to a 36-month term. Our \$15000 GIC will mature in January 2024.
4. The ACE awards account for those allocated in 2021 after the AGM. The proposed \$2000 are pending deposit to the award recipients for this year. The board collectively agreed on two \$1000 awards rather than the usual breakdown of multiple awards of different increments as the other award categories did not receive applicants.
5. The proposed CGNA conference revenue is an estimate based on the 2019 conference revenue.

Statement of ASSETS

As of March 31, 2022

GIC – Bank of Montreal – due 01-2025	\$5251.73
GIC – Bank of Montreal – due 01-2024	\$10,000.00
BMO Bank Account Balance	\$22489.27

CHAPTER ACCOUNTS

Chapter	Bank Balance	GIC
Calgary	\$ 11,343.65	\$ 0
Edmonton	\$ 9,285.85	\$ 5,000
Red Deer	\$ 3,528.37	\$ 0



Membership

Submitted by Kathleen Hunter

April 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022 Membership year

Detail by Chapter (Feb 7/22 update to the Executive)

Chapter	Membership type				TOTAL	License			
	Honorary	Member	Associate	Student		RN	LPN	NP	Other/ NS/blank/retired
Edmonton	2	68	2	9 NS - 3 RN - 5 LPN - 1	81	55	7	11	8
Calgary	4	96	2	6 NS - 3 RN - 3	108	90	5	1	12
Red Deer	1	24	1	6 NS - 5 LPN - 1	32	23	1	2	6
	7	188	5	21	221	168	13	14	26

Student members: *NS* – student in basic program or grad student (not licensed in Canada); *RN* – student members who identify as RNs; *LPN* – student members who identify as LPNs

NOTE: AGNA membership/renewal is managed through CGNA. New members who join from January forward have their membership extended until the end of following year.

For the first part of the year, I was sending a monthly detailed update (as above) to the Executive, updates to chapter chairs and adding new members/renewals to the AGNA database. As this is a very time-consuming process, I have switched this to a detailed report quarterly, with a monthly check of the CGNA database and update of new members onto the AGNA database. The next detailed quarterly update will be completed prior to the annual meeting to account for all new members as well as those who have renewed for April 1/22-March 31/23 so there will be a list of current members for voting at the AGM. Please encourage people to join/renew early to minimize having to add in last minute new members/renewals just prior to the AGM. I will work with Executive to set a deadline to add names on the voting members list prior to the AGM.

There continues to be non-active chapters listed in the CGNA membership/renewal online renewal form despite several requests to remove these. As well, some members do not identify a chapter when taking out membership/renewing. These members are reassigned to active chapters lists in the best possible geographic proximity to ensure they are associated with a chapter and receive notices of chapter activities:

- Assigned to Edmonton: Viking (inactive chapter selected)(2), Ft McMurray (inactive chapter selected) (1), Grande Prairie address but no chapter selected)(1), Edmonton address but (no chapter selected) (1)



- Assigned to Calgary: Lethbridge (inactive chapter selected) (2), Medicine Hat address but no chapter selected (1), Lethbridge address but no chapter selected) (1)

CGNA is moving to new membership software, so I will attempt once again to have the inactive Alberta chapters removed prior to this transition.

Over the year, I have also found members who have out of province addresses. These I have to look for manually when doing the monthly checks or quarterly updates from the CGNA data base. As the provincial Membership Coordinator does not receive an alert from CGNA of changes to existing member information, I now contact people whose addresses have changed to a new province to determine if they continue to be interested in hearing from AGNA. Four such emails were sent out this year, all indicated that they have moved to a different province and are no longer interested in AGNA. They have been removed from the AGNA database.

My term as the Membership Coordinator ends in April. For transition to the new coordinator, I have prepared a process document for monthly and quarterly updates from the CGNA master list to the AGNA membership database, although this process may change as CGNA switches membership software. All Membership Coordinator email is now conducted for security reasons through the AGNA email. Internal process for storing and safeguarding working documents for monthly/quarterly updates on the AGNA server, as well as lists sent to chapter chairs, need to be addressed in discussion with the Webmaster. I am happy to participate in this discussion as we transition to a new Membership Coordinator.

Provincial News

Communication

Submitted by Judy Worrell

The group has met six times and has worked on priorities the group established in the previous year, as well as other initiatives as needs arose:

- Finalization of the Bylaws based on feedback from Registry for re-submission by Secretary, accepted. Posted in file manager and available to all on the website under “About, Bylaws and Policies”
- Development of guidelines regarding the use of social media platforms to assist Executive members (with posting privileges) decision making about what/who is appropriate to share information to our general membership
- Review of CGNA Operating Policy on Social Media Use and recommendation to Board adopt with a caveat specific to AGNA Board wherever CGNA is noted
- Sending out regular communications to the general membership, primarily announcements about special events (examples reminders of AGM, ACE Award Application, Advance Directives, Volunteer Week, etc.)
- Member Needs Survey developed, distributed, analyzed, and results shared with Board to assist in future planning. There were 35 respondents, about 17% of our membership.
- Follow-up discussion to one Survey comment regarding the idea of establishing an on-line “forum for members to ask questions about seniors’ issues and... member respond with solutions they



have used in practice. The Committee recommended that this would require resources beyond our current capacity unless it was managed as a pilot project by a volunteer coordinator. The Board has tabled this for the time being

- Building capacity to regularly monitor and contribute to social media platforms – ongoing
- Solicited and obtained statements from two of last year’s ACE Award recipients about how the award contributed to their practice for posting on the website
- Arranging and attending a meeting with PHC IGSI – Connecting People and Community for Living Well to discuss potential attendance at their monthly Partners Meeting. An opportunity for networking and hearing about those advancing multi-sector collaborative approaches to supporting those affected by dementia. Future meeting topics of interest will be shared with AGNA members who may attend as they wish.

Composition of the group has changed over the year and ongoing challenges in the workplace have resulted in varying levels of attendance and involvement. We have continued collaboration among the three AGNA committees (Communication, Advocacy, Education) to facilitate timely and consistent communication and messages to our members. It is anticipated that the three committees will continue to meet and work on their areas of interest individually; and that the chairs will meet periodically to discuss areas of mutual concern and ways they can support one another in achieving their goals.

A special thanks to all who have participated in the past year. We continue to contribute to the work of the Association on behalf of the board. In the coming year, our work will be prioritized following the AGM and formation of the committee memberships. These include several ongoing or new initiatives:

- Unfinished - updates to Operations Manual
- Communication to members re: Social Media Policy
- Ongoing and regular communication to the general membership
- Work with Web Master to update information on the website
- Enhanced use of social media sites to share information with members and raise AGNA’s profile

Education

Submitted by Jennifer Boone

This past year has seen ongoing frequent changes to pandemic rules and guideline, therefore the AGNA executive decided to continue with an online format for all our education sessions.

- On November 9 we were pleased to have Dr. Jordanna Salma speak on “Improving health outcomes in immigrant older adults: Challenges, resilience and opportunities”. We had 14 members sign in for the live presentation and discussion.
- On January 12 Dr. Hannah O’Rourke presented on “Social connectedness among older adults: What does it mean, why does it matter, and strategies to promote it”. Seventeen members participated in the live session.

Both presentations were particularly timely as our seniors have often become even more isolated during pandemic restrictions. Dr. Salma’s and Dr. O’Rourke’s presentations both stimulated interesting



discussions and offered helpful information and suggestions. Both sessions were recorded and are available for viewing on the AGNA website.

Our final presentation is planned for our AGM. We look forward to a presentation from Dr. Lorraine Venturato.

The education committee also updated the criteria for the ACE award. This year we had 4 applicants for the \$1000 post-secondary education grant. All applicants met the criteria for the award. We had no applicants for the other two categories. Therefore, we were pleased to grant 2 post-secondary awards.

I would like to thank our committee members, Dr. Kathleen Hunter and Dr. Sherry Dahlke for their support and assistance.

Advocacy

Submitted by Yvonne Appah

Over the preceding year the goal of the advocacy committee has been to increase committee members and update relevant documents on the AGNA membership site. We had some success adding a new member, with hopes to recruit more. We also had the opportunity to partner with the Communications committee to develop strategies to target various communication platforms. We are excited about the year to come. A few goals are to build partnerships with community members, special interest groups and researchers associated with Gerontology and researchers. There are many opportunities arising with increased spotlight on senior's care during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are still navigating the impacts on current and future care for older adults. The advocacy committee is looking forward to providing current information to AGNA members and related stakeholders.

Past documents:

CARNA: *Seniors and Healthy Ageing* (2011); Summary of recommended edits Jan. 2018; [Mary Whale](#)

Chapter Reports

Calgary

Submitted by Ecaterina Nistor

Chapter Executive Officers

Role	Name
Chairperson	Ecaterina Nistor
Chair Elect	Jasmine Hwang
Treasurer	Jeanne Harker
Secretary	Justine Murray
Social	Monique Martin Parent
Education	Sandra Stone
Projects Liaison	Diane Paley
Study Group	Sandra Stone
Membership	Vacant



Member at large	Ma Tonillyn Chua
Academic Liaison	Jasmine Hwang

Introduction

We are pleased to share that our Executive Membership remained stable and maintained active participation throughout the past year. We were able to welcome some new members and invite them to our executive team meetings. During the past year, COVID-19 restrictions on face-to-face group gatherings affected AGNA Calgary Chapter meetings as well. We held our meetings and education sessions over Zoom. At the end of 2021, our executive members enjoyed a small, in-person gathering at Fish Creek Provincial Park.

We are invested in continuing to support our colleagues in advancing gerontological nursing knowledge and skills. We strongly encourage our members to volunteer in executive roles and practice and grow in leadership with us.

Study Group

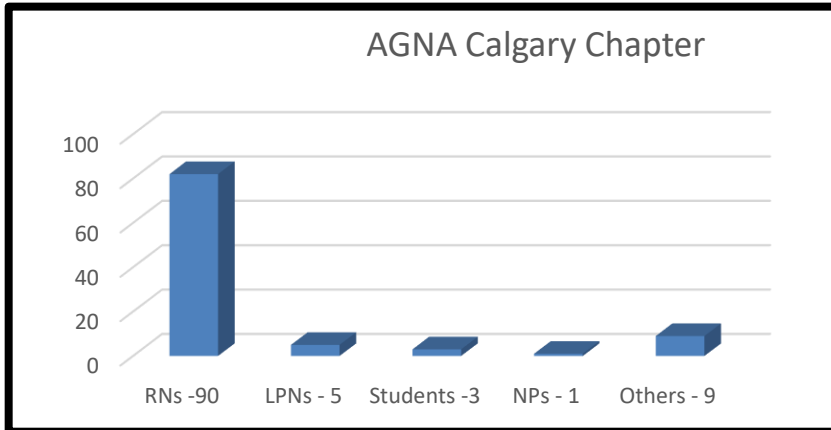
We have been offering biannual study groups (fall and spring) for CNA Gerontological Nursing certification. However, for each group, we have had only two nurses who were committed to write the exam. Our executive members -Sandra, Jasmine, and Cat- were able to support the fall group through topics discussions on a weekly basis. Two members who wrote the exam in the fall successfully passed the exam. For our current spring group, we are individually mentoring two nurses. Recently, one new member expressed her interest in facilitating future study groups. We are thrilled to support her in the new role.

Our study group is currently being offered to both RNs and LPNs over Zoom. General information about the study group is available on our AGNA website. We offer two online information sessions each year. Currently, the study group employs “teach and learn” style of topics presentation, group discussions, and review of sample exam questions. After reviewing the study group process this February, we have decided to offer study groups if there are 5 or more interested nurses. For less than 5 people, we will offer individual mentorship.

Membership



The AGNA Calgary Chapter had 108 members during the 2021-2022 year. The graph below portrays the membership breakdown.



Education and Information Sessions

Education

- May 2021 – **“Dementia Lives Here”** Project presented by **Kim Brundrit**, the Collective Impact
 - Lead at Dementia Network Calgary
- October 2021– **“Self-Compassion, Mindfulness & Stress Management”** presented by Michele Theoret, Registered Psychologist who practices mindfulness based somatic therapy.
- February 2022– **“Person-Centered Care – Exploring the Role of Empowerment”** presented by
 - Dr. Sienna Caspar, Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) and Dementia Care Specialist
- May 2022 – To be scheduled

Information

- August 2021 – Fall Gerontology Certification Study Group Information Session
- February 2022 – Spring Gerontology Certification Study Group Information Session

Other Projects

- Education Topic Survey (Finished November 2021) - To identify topics of interest for quarterly education sessions. 35% of the AGNA Calgary chapter members participated in the survey. Various potential topics for future education sessions were identified.
- Welcoming LPN Membership (Ongoing) - We encourage LPNs to join AGNA and include this in our welcome emails to the new members.
- Zoom Account Purchase for Calgary Chapter (Finished –February 2022) - We set up a Zoom account to facilitate the Calgary chapter meetings, study groups, and educational sessions.

The AGNA Calgary Chapter is excited for the upcoming membership year! We strongly encourage our members to voice their ideas, provide inputs and take on various volunteering roles. We are always looking for energetic, passionate RN and LPN colleagues who would like to share their expertise, knowledge, and skills.



Edmonton

Submitted by Brittany Walsh

Chapter Executive Officers

Role	Name
Chairperson	Brittany Walsh
Chair Elect	Vacant
Treasurer	Jane Wald
Secretary	Carla Halfyard
Social/Education	Nadeth Palmer

Our Edmonton Chapter Executive is still looking for members! We will be needing a new chairperson, secretary, treasurer, chair elect and would welcome an additional member for social education. We are excited to welcome Nadeth Palmer who joined our team in 2021.

2021 was another year in which we were able to connect virtually with members from across the province whether through the Provincial Webinar Series or with our Calgary colleagues for joint events.

It has yet again been a challenging year, but the executive has been working to get a journal club started and has been in discussions with Alberta Association on Gerontology for a joint event in the near future.

Red Deer

Submitted by Catriona Blythe

Chapter Executive Officers

Role	Name
Chairperson	Catriona Blythe
Past Chairperson	Andy Le Blanc
Treasurer	Raigne Symes
Secretary	Raigne Symes
Social/Education	Ruby Naraine
RDC Liaison	Daniella Henderson

Summary in Brief:

Another year has “zoomed” past for the Red Deer AGNA Chapter. Our small but mighty team worked hard to remain connected and to provide support to gerontological nurses in Central Alberta. Special thanks to Andy LeBlanc for his unwavering support and guidance for our chapter. Thanks also to Raigne Symes for jumping into a new combined Secretary/Treasurer role.

Our chapter recognized the ongoing stress and trauma that our members have endured so we focused on hosting interesting and helpful presentations that could be directly utilized in practice, while also providing a relaxing avenue for connection and support. Our hope for the next year ahead is to meet IN-PERSON and work together to further strengthen the role and presence of AGNA in our area.



Highlights from our past year include a Holiday themed Zoom mixer and hearing from the Innisfail Community Partners In Action Committee about the astounding programs they offer right in Central Alberta. Our team is excited to continue hosting a range of speakers that will be beneficial to our membership.

Membership Meetings/Chapter activities:

April 14, 2021, Chapter Meeting:

- Elections held
- Student sponsorship for AGNA membership- 2 RN and 2 LPN students sponsored

May 19, 2021, Chapter Meeting:

- Update on AGNA virtual 40th AGM
- Potential future education sessions discussion
- Planned Hospice education session postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Membership agreed on continuing zoom meeting format for the current time
- Recognition of board meeting who are leaving the board

October 13, 2021, Chapter Meeting:

- Reminder about renewing membership
- AGNA provincial update
- Polled the membership about what they would like out of future meetings- results included connection, education related to geriatric nursing, group setting for socialization, learning more about possible mentorship, review scholarly research, and learning more about local resources.
- AGNA seniors' hero- possible creation of an award to be given out to a person/group going above and beyond to help seniors.

December 14, 2021, Chapter Meeting:

- Holiday Social event
- Sharing of expertise in geriatrics

January 25, 2022, Chapter Meeting:

- Guest speakers- Innisfail Community Partners in Action- Wendy Evans and Ellen Helgason
- <https://wolfcreekpcn.com/resources/>
- Treasurers update
- Education minute: The book: Being Mortal by Atul Gawande from which the Serious Illness Conversations through AHS are based on this book.

February 22, 2022, Chapter Meeting:

- Resource Sharing: [Journal of Advanced Nursing - 2021 - Rodney - Loneliness in the time of COVID-19 Impact on older adults \(2\).pdf](#)

March 29, 2022, Chapter Meeting:

- Annual report update- treasurer report, chairperson's report
- Elections for 2022-2023
 - Catriona Blythe- President by acclamation
 - Raigne Symes- Secretary and Treasurer by acclamation



- Andy Le Blanc- Past president
- Social- Education- Adele McKechnie
- RDP liaison- Danielle Henderson
- Plans for future meetings discussed
- Seniors' Hero nomination criteria discussion